

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES (CDSS) AND TRIBAL  
TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF)  
ADMINISTRATORS' MEETING  
SUMMARY**

**February 23, 2018  
744 P Street, OB-9, Room 205  
Sacramento, CA  
9:00 am – 12:00 pm**

This document summarizes the key issues discussed at the meeting between Tribal TANF Administrators (TTA) and leaders and CDSS representatives on February 23, 2018.

*Action items from the prior Tribal TANF Administrators' meeting on November 14, 2017, were met.*

**CalWORKs Program Update**

Kim Johnson, CalWORKs and Child Care Branch Chief, provided an update on the California CalWORKs Outcomes and Accountability Review (Cal-OAR) initiative, which is developing through the stakeholder process and includes tribal representatives. The Cal-OAR initiative is a three-year process which will evaluate performance based on specific measures. By July 1, 2019, counties will report what measures they will focus on. Afterwards, counties will start the peer review process and will be paired with other counties with similar goals.

Assembly Bill (AB) 1520 establishes the "Lifting Children and Families Out of Poverty Task Force" with delivering a report to the executive branch and Legislature by November 1, 2018. The report will include an eight year look back and provide recommendations on how to eliminate child poverty and deep child poverty.

Michele Grant, Manager of the Program Integrity and County Operations Unit for the Child Care Programs Bureau, provided updates on the Home Visiting Initiative Program. The Home Visiting Initiative Program, a proposal of \$158 million over three years, will begin January 2019 and provide evidence-based, culturally competent services. The voluntary program supports health outcomes by providing access to trained professionals and to prenatal care to first time parents or caretaker relative who are enrolled in the CalWORKs program. For more information, email: [calworkhvi@dss.ca.gov](mailto:calworkhvi@dss.ca.gov).

Senate Bill (SB) 164 granted priority registration to Tribal TANF recipients attending community college.

SB 380, effective November 1, 2018, changes the way in which child support is counted for CalWORKs eligibility determination and grant computation.

SB 982, considered a spot bill, intends to revisit the CalWORKs grant amount to ensure that it is sufficient to get families out of deep poverty.

## **Federal Updates**

Family Engagement and Empowerment Division (FEED) Deputy Director, Todd Bland, provided updates on the President's Budget (page 157). The President's Budget proposes to reduce the TANF block grant by ten percent. Other possible policy changes are:

- Thirty percent of TANF and state maintenance-of-effort (MOE) set aside for work, education and training activities
- Replacing the Caseload Reduction Credit with an Employment Credit (collapsing the two work participation rates into one standard rate)
- Allowing states to count partial credit into Work Participation Rates (WPR)
- Eliminating contingency funds (CA never accessed)

March 23<sup>rd</sup> for appropriation of Federal level proposed to double Child Care.

## **CDSS Tribal Affairs Team**

Heather Hostler, Director of the Office of Tribal Affairs (OTA), presented on CDSS's issues and programs. Heather emphasized the OTA's mission was to build on the government to government relationship between CDSS and the tribes, and how to best engage with tribes. The OTA is looking to create a tribal advisory committee.

## **CalFresh Updates**

Alexis Fernandez, CalFresh Policy Bureau Chief, discussed the CalFresh Employment and Training (E&T) Program. The E&T Program offers supportive and ancillary services such as dependent care and transportation costs to help secure employment to non-CalWORKs individuals.

## **Tribal Customary Adoptions Presentation**

Turid Gregory-Furlong, Concurrent Planning Policy Unit Manager, gave a presentation on the background, regulation package, and goals of the Tribal Customary Adoptions (TCA). Regulations are being completed at this time.

PowerPoint handed out.

## **Manual of Policies and Procedures (MPP) Division 31-100**

Amanda Ferreira, Associate Governmental Program Analyst for the Child Safety Unit, discussed the current process of the regulation package for MPP Division 31-100.

PowerPoint handed out.

## **Tribal TANF Program**

Ryan Tsukiji, Manager of the Tribal TANF Unit, reminded TTAs that the 50% Unemployment Surveys are due March 5, 2018.

## **Open Discussion**

Request to have Desert Sage Youth Wellness Treatment Center representative at the next meeting.

## **CDSS Action Items**

- Share list of received 50% Unemployment Surveys to TTAs
- Share information about Community College Conference in Redding
- Share how to sign up for All County Letter (ACL) notifications
- Share OTA's shortened PowerPoint and letter to tribal chairmen
- Change future TTA's meeting from November 13<sup>th</sup> to a week prior due to holiday (November 6<sup>th</sup>?)

## **NEXT TRIBAL TANF ADMINISTRATORS MEETING**

Tuesday, May 8, 2018, 9:00 am – 12 pm (OB-9 Room 205)

Tuesday, August 14, 2018, 9:00 am – 12 pm (OB-9 Room 205)

Tuesday, November 6, 2018, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm (TBD)\*